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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

GERARD *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/245,025

Filed: February 5, 1999

For: **Compositions and Methods for
Reverse Transcription of Nucleic
Acid Molecules**

Art Unit: 1643

Examiner: To be assigned

Atty. Docket: 0942.4330003/RWE/BJD

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p.g.
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Information Disclosure Statement

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Copies of the cited documents were provided to the Office in Application No. 09/064,057, filed April 22, 1998, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached hereto. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

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Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

The Examiner's attention is directed to the following commonly owned, co-pending U.S. applications, which concern related technical subject matter:

<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Docket No.</u>
08/798,458	February 10, 1997	0942.0490007
09/054,485	April 3, 1998	0942.4370001
09/076,115	May 12, 1998	0947.4350001
09/220,329	December 24, 1998	0942.0490009
09/220,330	December 24, 1998	0942.0490008

The identification of these U.S. Patent Applications is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to the applications now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited applications and the art cited therein during examination of the present application.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that had been cited or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

This Information Disclosure Statements is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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Date: May 20, 1999

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